

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/796,575

Examiner

Tuan T. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

CONLEY ET AL.

Art Unit

2824

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed on 1/12/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11 and 23-26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/17/05, 4/18/05, 8/16/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other search history.

Tuan T Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2824

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election without traverse of claims 1-11, and 23-26 in the reply filed on 1/12/06 is acknowledged.
2. Claims 27-31 have been withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 1/12/06.
3. This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 27-31 directed to an invention non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 27-31 have been cancelled.

Drawings

4. New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in this application because in **Figure 4D**, label "3-9" should be "3-8" (see specification page 10, line 16). Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims **27-31**.

In the specification page 7, paragraph [0022], change "Figure 4 shows" to –
Figures 4A-4D show –

Art Unit: 2824

Page 7, paragraph [0024], change “Figure 6 shows” to – Figures 6A-6B show –

Page 10, paragraph [0039], change “Figure 4 shows” to – Figures 4A-4D show --

Page 13, line 8, change “Acontroller” to – A controller --

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims **1-11 and 23-26** are allowed.

6. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to disclose a removable memory card, in combination with other cited limitations, comprising a buffer cache in communication with the host interface and the non-volatile memory array, the buffer cache having at least a first portion and a second portion for storing data, the first portion having a first policy, the second portion having a second policy, the first policy and the second policy being separated selected as recited in the independent claim 1.

The prior art of record further fails to disclose a removable memory card, in combination with other cited limitations, comprising a read-look-ahead cache interposed between the host interface and the non-volatile, non-rotating memory array, the read-look-ahead cache storing a non-requested portion of data that is sequential to a requested portion of data requested by the host as recited in the independent claim 23.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Art Unit: 2824

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1880. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Elms can be reached on 571-272-1869. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Tuan T Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2824

April 3, 2006